(d) The major factor necessitating a review of roaming tariff by TRAI was the lack of effective competition in the roaming segment of the market that resulted in higher charges as compared to the cost of providing roaming services.

PoWs languishing in Pakistani jails

*157. SHRI HARISH RAWAT:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any formal proposal from Pakistan as a follow up of recent offer by the President of that country regarding the search of Indian PoWs languishing in Pakistani jails;

(b) if not, whether Government have followed it up with Government of Pakistan;

(c) if so, whether Government have formulated the modalities;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and by when the modalities are likely to be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) During his visit to Parkistan in January, 2007, the External Affairs Minister reiterated India's request for a visit by the families of the missing defence personnel to jails in Pakistan. President Musharraf agreed to accept a delegation of families of PoWs. Government have proposed the visit of a delegation to Pakistan in April, 2007.

Indian passports in circulation

*158. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian passports in circulation in the country;